Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 10837 080754Z ACTION EA-12

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SECRETHONG KONG 10837

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: EAIR, ESTC, VM, HK

SUBJECT: REPORTED OVERHAUL OF FORMER US AIRCRAFT PARTS

- (A) STATE 208512, NOTAL, (B) DIADIN 238-1A 261857Z AUG 77)
- (C) USDLO HONG KONG IR 6 842 0605 77 OF AUG 10,
- (D) USDLO HONG KONG IR 6 842 0463 77 OF JUNE 23,
- (E) 76 HONG KONG 2830, (F) LAHIGUERA EA/VLC LTR OF

FEBRUARY 22.

- 1. CONGEN AND USDLO OFFICERS HAVE HAD CLOSE CONTACT WITH MANAGEMENT OF HONG KONG AIRCRAFT ENGINEERING CORPORATION (HAECO) FOR SOME TIME OVER QUESTION OF OVERHAUL OF VIETNAMESE-OWNED ENGINES (REFTELS (C) THROUGH (E)). USDLO REPORTS (C) AND (D) WHICH DETAILED HAECO CONTRACT WITH SRV ON ENGINE MAINTENANCE IS BASIS FOR DIA REPORT (REF (B)). TITLE OF DIA REPORT IS, HOWEVER, MISLEADING IN THAT HAECO PERFORMS MAINTENANCE ON VIETNAMESE ENGINES AND AIRCRAFT PARTS BROUGHT IN BY SHIP BUT NOT ON VIETNAMESE AIRCRAFT. THERE ARE NO VIETNAMESE AIRCRAFT IN HONG KONG FOR MAINTENANCE NOR ARE ANY EXPECTED.
- 2. HAECO MANAGEMENT HAS ASSURED CONGEN AND USDLO OFFICERS THAT THEY WILL NOT USE ANY AIRCRAFT PARTS SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 HONG K 10837 080754Z

ACQUIRED FROM US FIRMS OR THEIR SUBSIDIARIES IN MAINTAINING VIETNAMESE ENGINES. US PARTS PURCHASED PRIOR TO THE IMPOSITION OF THE EMBARGO ARE INCLUDED IN THIS BAN. HAECO BELIEVES IT CAN MET ITS PARTS REQUIREMENTS BY USING ENGINES OR PARTS FROM ENGINES PURCHASED IN OTHER COUNTRIES, I.E., FRANCE AND AFRICA.

3. COMMENT: CONGEN DOES NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE THERE HAS BEEN ANY CONTRAVENTION OF US TRADE EMBARGO BY AMERICAN SUPPLIERS OF HAECO. DIRECTOR OF HAECO HAS REPEATEDLY STATED THAT HE WILL ABANDON ANY ACTIVITIY WHICH USG FEELS IS IN VIOLATION OF AMERICAN LAW AND HAS POSED SOME QUESTIONS ON THE EMBARGO CONTAINED IN REF (F)). HE IS, OF COURSE, INTERESTED IN DOING ANY BUSINESS HE LEGALLY CAN AND HAECO'S CONNECTION WITH CAHTAY PACIFIC IS ALSO OF CONCERN SINCE CATHAY DESIRED OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS IN VETNAM. HAECO HAS SHOWN WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE WITH US LAW AND ALSO TO PROVIDE INFORMATION OF INTEREST TO THE USG. WE CONCUR WITH ONE SENIOR HAECO MANAGER WHO COMMENTED THAT IF HAECO DES NOT DO THE MAINTENANCE ON THE VIETNAMESE-OWNED AIRCRAFT ENGINES, SOMEONE LESS COOPERATIVE WITH THE USG WOULD CERTAINLY BE WILLING TO DO THE WORK. CROSS

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USDLO HONG KONG IR 6 842 0605 77 OF AUG 10 TAGS: EAIR, ESTC, VM, HK

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